



Kathryn Agnes McMaster (1961)

July 22, 1944 - December 30, 2022

Kathryn McMaster was born on July 22, 1944 in Chilliwack, and died in Nanaimo on December 30, 2022. She was the third of four children for Mildred (nee Willison) and John McMaster, with older siblings Barbara and James, and younger brother Robert. She grew up in Victoria, graduated from Victoria High School, and obtained a bachelor's degree from UBC.

She had a varied professional career, mostly in Vancouver, where she met and married in 1984 her husband Rolf Meier. A few years later, Kathy and Rolf moved to Nanoose Bay on Vancouver Island. Kathy operated a B&B, earning a reputation as a hostess that Martha Stewart would have admired, while Rolf pursued his career as a Swiss kitchen equipment representative and luxury hotel kitchen designer. After over a decade in their

home in Nanoose Bay, they moved to their property inland in Nanoose.

Kathy was a passionate gardener, and created showpiece gardens at both locations in Nanoose. She had a love for travel, possibly inherited from her father, and among the highlights were a summer exploring Europe with her brother Rob, a tour in China, a winter of camping in Morocco with Rob and sister-in-law Anne, and with Rolf visiting his family in Switzerland.

Kathy and Rolf loved walking their dogs in the pristine forest abutting their property on Rena Road, and threw themselves into a years long fight to save it from clear-cut logging. This struggle was successful in preserving half of this tract of forest, but also in forming deep friendships among those involved. Kathy was devastated to lose Rolf, just over a year ago, and subsequently having to give up the care of her companion dog, Monty. Rolf's family in Switzerland, and especially his niece, Dominique, gave Kathy much appreciated support during Rolf's long illness.

Kathy's last days came more quickly than she or her close friends could have foreseen. Her final breaths were taken surrounded by a circle of loving friends, some going back to high school and early days in Vancouver, others from over her many years in Nanoose, and with her brother Rob and sister-in-law Anne at her side. Kathy was very mindful that December 31 was the wedding anniversary for her and Rolf. Her ashes will be interred, joining with Rolf's, in Yates Memorial Garden, with a gathering of friends later in the spring. Many heartfelt thanks to all the professional staff at the Palliative Care Unit of NRGH, especially the angels in the nursing cadre who cared for Kathy.